

January 8, 2020

E-Messenger

Our Mission Statement To build a family of believers who glorify God and help each other become fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ

Wednesday Nights Return

5:30 D.O.W.N. Dinner

This Week: Taco Bar

\$3/ person. This week can pay entire Semester for \$42.50/person or \$120/ family



6:00 Prayer Team

**6:15 Indescribable (Children)
Student Ministry
Adult Studies**



6:30 Choir Rehearsal

New Adult Classes kick off January 15
See details on page 2

Messy Epiphany Kicks Off 2020

What a great evening of learning, fun, food and fellowship. This past Sunday families and friends gathered for a time of experiencing Epiphany through a hands on time of reflection and learning. The theme was "Light of the World" with a focus on stations leading people to come and worship the infant Jesus.



Growth Opportunities

MEMBERSHIP CLASS

You may be wondering how you can become more involved or join St Mark's. Thus I write, inviting you to join me for what we call the "Membership Class."

We will meet three Wednesday evenings 6:15-7:20'ish beginning January 15 and ending January 29. A meal will be available in Barnett Hall beginning at 5:30. Nursery, children and student ministries will be underway; there will be a place for your children.

I want to share some specific information with you, but the topics will be driven by your questions and interests. Some of the congregational leaders will be dropping in to introduce themselves and answer questions you may have for them.

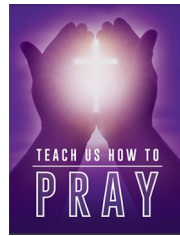
Please sign up at the counter outside the office of call Pat Morford or me at the church (405-789-9033) to let us know to look for you.

I look forward to getting to know you better.

Pastor Keith

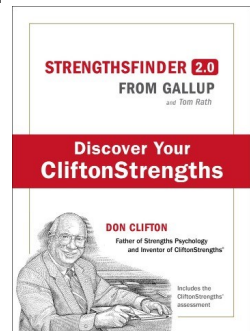
Teach Us How To Pray

A seven week class will begin January 15th at 2:00 pm in room 18. The study will be a deeper look into the Lord's prayer. Through this study and discussion, we will learn that the Lord's Prayer can be understood as a pattern of how to pray. It gives us the fundamental components that can go into our prayer time as we converse with God. You can sign up for the class on the church counter.



Strength Finders Class

Many of you have taken the Strength Finders and are looking for ways to apply it to your life. This class will be an opportunity to look at how knowing your strengths equips you in your life. The class will run for 6 weeks starting Wednesday, February 5th on Wednesday evenings from 6—7 pm. If you have not taken the strength finders inventory let us know and we will assist you in that prior to class. Sign up on church counter.



Women's Bible Study



All women are invited to be a part of this great study. It will take place at 7:00 pm on Monday evenings starting January 20th and runs for 4 weeks. They will meet in the home of Kayla Gannon. You can sign up on the church counter or contact Kayla. Even if you can't make it to every session we encourage you to join us and keep caught up on RightNow Media. Invite a friend and join us for this great time of study and fellowship

MEXICAN CUISINE

SPANISH & COOKING CLASS

COME AND JOIN US MAKING

*Green Chicken
Enchilada Casserole*

WHILE LEARNING SOME BASIC CONVERSATIONAL SPANISH

BRING \$5 AND TAKE YOURS HOME!

JANUARY 23, 2019
BARNETT HALL
FROM 5:45-7:00 PM



EMAIL TO RSVP:
BEQUER@STMARKSBETHANY.COM
OR SIGN-UP ON THE CHURCH COUNTER

St. Mark's Leadership January 1, 2020 - December 31, 2022 Church Council

Chair	Jay Sears
Lay Leader	David Miller
Lay Member of Annual Conference	Lydia Cressman
SPRC Chair	Steve Couch
Hospitality & Outreach SHIFT team leader	Dorothy Lynch
Mission & Service SHIFT team leader	Kathy Hamilton
Discipleship & Formation SHIFT team leader	Joey Pedigo

Committees	2019	2020	2021
Trustees	Ruby Wilkey	John Evans	Miller Gerardy
Finance	Christel Longoria	Mal Bucholtz	Mike Kilby

Pastor: Keith Cressman

Additional areas of service not on Church Council

Committee on Lay Leadership

Chair: Keith Cressman

2019	2020	2021
Rod Sipes	Lori Evans	Sharon Kilby
DJ Gannon	Brandy Miller	Brad Cromwell
Beverly Ray	Mike Fisher	

Staff Parish Relations Committee

Chair: Steve Couch

2019	2020	2021
Becky Chessmore	Karen Kapka	Sally Kilby
Steve Couch	Julia Bevers	Kellen Brooks
Lorna Garner	Bobbie Gaston	Mike Bevins

Here is a full slate of church officers for 2020 as elected at Charge Conference. Our new format provides more opportunities for everyone to be involved in hands on ministry of the church. Pray for these leaders and seek God's direction in where you can serve Christ and his kingdom in 2020.

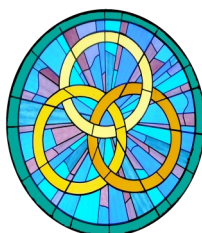
Adult Sunday AM Classes

8:15 am Room 17 Sonshine Class	10:40 am Choir Room Good News Class
Room 18 New Life Class	10:45 am Room 19 R.O.C.K. Class
9:30 am Room 18 Discipleship Class	10:55 am Room 5 Promise Class
Room 17 Young Adult	Room 18 Faithbuilders Class

Second Winders



Second Winders will meet for the first time in 2020 with a covered dish meal at noon on Thursday January 10th. Don and Jan Greve and Miller Gerardy will speak about the church and building history of St Mark's.



**FALL 2020
ST. MARK'S TO HOST**

**Whiz
Kids**

BE A VOLUNTEER!

St Mark's will host a Whiz Kids site this fall! What is Whiz Kids? Whiz Kids is a faith-based mentoring and tutoring program focused on meeting the needs of elementary school children at-risk for educational failure. Over 76 metro-area churches and 1500 volunteers are engaged weekly with more than 30 elementary schools in the Oklahoma City and Putnam City School Districts. Each church focuses on a different school. We will focus on Overholser Elementary.

Whiz Kids is another win-win circumstance, sponsored by St Mark's, for anyone seeking an

opportunity to become a difference-maker in the lives of the children in our community. The Whiz Kids thrive with one-on-one attention and quickly make up those educational achievement gaps each might be experiencing. They score significantly higher than their counterparts on state-sponsored scholastic tests after only one year in the program. And mentors win by just showing up, connecting with, and guiding these young people. Your commitment would be just 2 hours for 1 afternoon each week during the school year.

A sign up sheet for mentor/tutor volunteers is available on the office counter. Brochures containing more information about Whiz Kids are also available.

Please call Mark Walpus at 405.887.6067 if you want to talk about becoming a Whiz Kids volunteer.



Our next Men's Breakfast will be on February 1st. We will have breakfast will be at 8:00 am and should be done by 9 am. Feel free to invite a friend, or bring your kids.

Staff Emails

Keith Cressman	pastorkeith@stmarksbethany.com
Becky Roman	becky@stmarksbethany.com
Sharon Hunt	sharon@stmarksbethany.com
Lydia Cressman	Lydia@stmarksbethany.com
Alicia Schneider	alicia@stmarksbethany.com
Kayla Gannon	kayla@stmarksbethany.com
Bequer Gomez	bequer@stmarksbethany.com
Jackie Swedlow	finance@stmarksbethany.com
Gwen Sears	finance@stmarksbethany.com
Pat Morford	pat@stmarksbethany.com

Mission & Service Opportunities

Kenya Mission Trip Team Forming for Trip August 1-11, 2020

Mark and Kinsey serve in central Kenya where they are active with a pizza & coffee shop, the One World Cafe', in the town of Nyahururu. Mark is currently working with area officials to develop plans for drilling wells that will provide clean water for area residents, like the one we funded in Magomano, and the Foglemans are active in discipleship and missionary training with a local organization called God's Grace for All Nations. Team members will be doing some combination of assisting with a VBS at the Children's Home, working on the Magomano Water Project, helping with the Cafe' and training residents in biblical or business issues.

If you have interest in being a part of the team from St. Mark's grab a brochure at the Welcome Center and learn the details of the trip.



ISRAEL TRIP PLANNED

St. Mark's will be part of a team going to Israel in the first two weeks of June, the 1st - 14th. The trip will include attendance at the Hope and Resilience in a Broken World conference, as well as traveling through the land known as "The Fifth Gospel".



If you are interested in finding out more about this adventure of a lifetime, contact David Ro-

man at church or via email at: dbjkni@gmail.com.



Comunidad After School Program



On Thursday, January 23rd, we will be kicking off a weekly after school tutoring program for children from Overholser. We are looking for people willing to mentor/tutor a child. If you are interested please contact Bequer Gomez at the church or sign up on the office counter. An opportunity to make a real difference right here at home.

Christmas Eve Offering Update

So far we have received over \$19,475 from our Christmas Eve Offering for the well in Kenya and YSF. You still have the opportunity to share in this gift if you missed it. Just mark your check Christmas Eve offering.





STUDENT MINISTRY

Happy New Year! Everything is kicking off again after break, but I hope you had a restful, enjoyable time these past few weeks.

Here's what we have going on in youth ministry as we look at [Sundays, Wednesdays, and upcoming events, camps, missions, and retreats!](#)

Sundays

Sunday School is at 9:45 and Big Church is at 10:55.

Our **Middle School** class just began a new series called 101 Questions about the Bible. This series is on RightNow Media and each week covers a different fascinating question (we are not covering all 101 questions haha). Some of the questions include, "What is the origin of the different races," "Where did Cain get his wife," and "Is there such a thing as fate or destiny?" Be sure to ask your child what they learned in Sunday School, because you may end up learning some things that you've always wondered about!

Our **High School** class is continuing to be led by the incredible Mike Kilby. Mike teaches by walking the students through different passages of Scripture and discussing theological concepts based around those passages.

We also have a **Young Adult** class that meets during this time. Students will, in fact, have a class to go to even once they graduate from high school! For now, let's just invite all their older siblings!

Wednesdays

Dinner is served at 5:30 for \$3 per person. Youth is from 6:15-7:30.

This Wednesday, Jan 8, we are kicking off the New Year by writing letters to ourselves in order to offer a time of introspection as we reflect on this past year and set our hopes for this new year. God is actively involved in all of our lives, so it's neat to look back and see the ways he's moved (in the good times and bad), as well as trust him to move in our futures.

The next several Wednesdays, we will watch a RightNow Media series by Francis Chan called "Greater Than." Francis Chan talks about his own childhood and life to explain that God is greater than any pain, sin, and hardship that we might encounter in this life.

Upcoming Events

Metro Worship is Jan. 26! This is a great time to get out of our little world and go worship with youth from all over our community. I'll have more details on this soon.

Winter Retreat is Feb. 14-16! The registration and info form is attached. Forms are also available in the youth room. **Registration and payments are due Jan. 15.**

Our **Spring Break Mission** for High School students will take place in McAllen, TX. I have a meeting to finalize all the details next week, so watch for that info!!

Here are a few other great things that are a bit further down the road, but go ahead and throw them on your calendars if you haven't already!

- Guys' and Girls' Retreats: MS-HS @ tba - April 24-25
- Disciple: MS camp @ Heart o' Hills - June 4-7
- Youth Force: MS-HS mission @ Ardmore - June 14-19
- Dayspring: HS Camp @ Sky Ranch - July 20-24

I'm looking forward to all the things that are coming this year! I'm praying for spiritual growth among our students and families. I'm also looking forward to meeting new students this year, so keep inviting people to come join the fam!

See you all Wednesday!

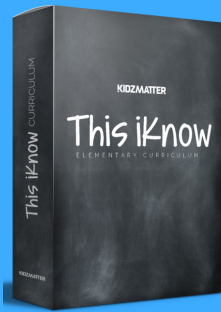
Lydia Cressman

Director of Student Ministries

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

SUNDAY MORNING:

Ages: Nursery - Kindergarten
Elementary Age 1st - 5th grade
Time 9:30 am - 10:45 am
10:45 am - 12:00 pm



"THIS I KNOW"

Current lesson Plan :
"Look at the Mess"
Each Bible account high-
lights someone who got in
a mess and how God was

faithful to them through the
entire experience. God real-
izes our lives can
et messy and God is not in-
timidated in the least by
them.



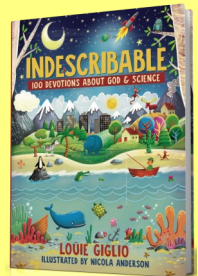
WEDNESDAY EVENING:

D.O.W.N. Dinner - 5:30-6:15
INDESCRIBABLE - 6:15—7:30

God has different plans for us and your children
so we are going to try something different this
year and will begin "Indescribable" Please pray
for us as we plan and develop lessons around
Louis Giglio's - Indescribable - devotionals for
children. Something new and exciting as we
hope to challenge the kiddos to experience our
God in Indescribable ways.

Four keys areas will be explored as we
look at how indescribable our God is.

Space
Earth
Animals
People



Coming: January 8 The Star Counter	MV Isaiah 40:26b
January 15 Even the Rocks	MV Psalm 98:8
January 22 No Kidding	MV I Tim. 4:12
January 29 Great Balls of Fire	MV II Tim. 1:7

EARLY CHILDHOOD MINISTRY DIRECTOR:
Sharon Hunt
Phone: 789-9033
Email: sharon@stmarksbethany.com

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY DIRECTOR:
Alicia Schneider
Phone: 789-9033
Email: alicia@stmarksbethany.com

St. Mark's Food Pantry

The St. Mark's Food Pantry for Overholser is
open on Sundays from 4pm - 6 pm.

Currently the following items are needed
in the pantry.

- ♦ Sugar
- ♦ Saltine Crackers
- ♦ Cereal



rightnow MEDIA

Take advantage of this great opportunity and sign
up today. Go to:

[https://www.rightnowmedia.org/Account/Invite/
stmarksbethany](https://www.rightnowmedia.org/Account/Invite/stmarksbethany)

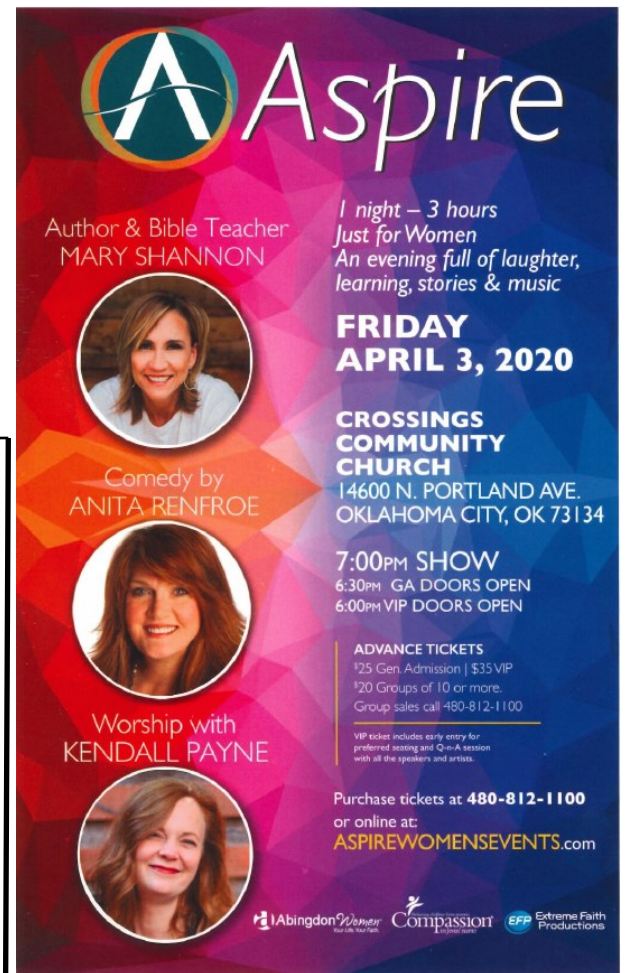
Great Opportunity for Women

It's still a ways off, but now is the time to get on board for a great evening of laughter, learning, stories and music. We are hoping to put a group together to take part in this event. If you are interested you can sign up on the church counter or you can contact Kayla Gannon.



We Are St. Mark's

Our Mission Statement:
To build a family of believers who glorify God and help each other become fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ



Aspire

*1 night – 3 hours
Just for Women
An evening full of laughter,
learning, stories & music*

**FRIDAY
APRIL 3, 2020**

**CROSSINGS
COMMUNITY
CHURCH**
14600 N. PORTLAND AVE.
OKLAHOMA CITY, OK 73134

7:00PM SHOW
6:30PM GA DOORS OPEN
6:00PM VIP DOORS OPEN

ADVANCE TICKETS
\$25 Gen Admission | \$35 VIP
\$20 Groups of 10 or more.
Group sales call 480-812-1100

VIP ticket includes early entry for preferred seating and Q+A session with all the speakers and artists.

Purchase tickets at **480-812-1100**
or online at:
ASPIREWOMENSEVENTS.com

Abingdon Women's Ministry | Compassion | EPF Extreme Faith Productions



Alice	Bentin	Kayla	Gannon	Cheryl	Pavelko
Reed	Brooks	Barbara	Gardner	Sophia	Preston
Jerry	Calvert	Lorna	Garner	Kim	Preston
Adalynn	Cheatham	Dale	German	Dylan	Reimers
Bravery	Clemenceau	Kathy	Hamilton	Ethan	Sandburg
Mary	Collins	Tristan	Hickman	Samuel	Schneider
Steve	Couch	Cody	Hunt	Gwen	Sears
Keith	Cressman	Joy	Imel	Dale	Stafford
Letha	Davis	LaDonna	Mathews	Ella	Stiffler
Vonnie	Deal	Shelley	Meisenburg	Chris	Teague
Jennifer	Fallon	Austin	Miller	Beverley	Tully
Joely	Ferguson	Merrick	Mullin	Chris	Ulmer
Royden	Freeland	Houston	Norvell	Emma Lee	Votaw
Nevaeh	Gannon	Valerie	Pautsch	Rita	Wurzer

Facts and Figures

2019 Annual Budget605,361
Rec'd toward Operating 12/29/20197,388

YTD 2019
Rec'd toward Operating 12/29//2019....514,808
Expenditures 12/29/2019514,459

Attendance

Sunday, January
Worship 257
Sunday School 188

Prayer Box

Don & Fran Nobles
Votaw family
Mark Summers family
Barbara Gardner
Barbara Homer
Alyson Smith
Edith Chilcutt
Mary Wyman family
Darryl Lapointe
Ronnie Thomas
Lindell Warren
Stacy Morgan
Lenore Coble
Pam Thompson family

Mary Collins family
Evelyn Moore
Larry Kelly
Vic Gammill
Pam Barnes
Bremmer family
Hutchisons
John Baumeister
Betty Underwood
Beverly Clark
Frankye Flemins
Ray York
Chris & Kelly Pavelko
Sharon Dan
Adrienne Cressman family
Miller Gerardy family